

# California Newborn Hearing Screening PROGRAM

## Hearing & Speech Ages & Stages



State of California, Department of Health Services,  
Children's Medical Services

### As Your Baby Grows ...

#### Birth to 3 Months

- Quiets to familiar voices or sounds
- Reacts to loud sounds, *baby startles, blinks, stops sucking, cries or wakes up*
- Makes soft sounds when awake, *baby gurgles*

#### 3 to 6 Months

- Turns eyes or head toward sounds, *voices, noise making toys, dog barking*
- Starts to make speech like sounds, *"ga," "ooh," "ba" and p, b, m sounds*
- Reacts to a change in your tone of voice



#### 6 to 9 Months

- Responds to own name and looks when called
- Understands simple words, *"no," "bye-bye," "juice"*
- Babbles, *"da da da," "ma ma ma," "ba ba ba"*

#### 9 to 12 Months

- Responds to both soft or loud sounds
- Repeats single words and imitates animal sounds
- Points to favorite toys or foods when asked

#### 12 to 18 Months

- Uses 10 or more words
- Follows simple spoken directions, *"get the ball"*
- Points to people, body parts or toys when asked
- *"Bounces"* to music

#### 18 to 24 Months

- Uses 20 or more words
- Combines 2 or more words, *"more juice," "what's that?"*
- Uses many different consonant sounds at beginning of words, *b, g, m*
- Listens to simple stories and songs

#### 2 Years to 3 Years

- Uses 2-3 word sentences
- At 2 years, people can understand what the child says some of the time (25% – 50%)
- At 3 years, people can understand what the child says most of the time (50% – 75%)
- Follows two-step instructions, *"get the ball and put it on the table"*

If you have any concerns about your baby's hearing,  
contact your baby's doctor or healthcare provider.

Hearing can be tested at any age.



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